

Lancaster County Substance Abuse Action Coalition (SAAC)
Keep On Track - Juvenile Criminal Justice Team
February 16, 2005 1221 N. St. 7th Floor

PRESENT WERE: Alicia Spilker, Magellan, Scott Carlson, Juvenile Drug Court, BJ Brittenham, Independence Center, Melissa Beecher, Juvenile Justice Coordinator, Otto Schultz, Substance Abuse Action Coalition, Corey Steel, Juvenile Justice Expeditor.

ALSO PRESENT: Roxie Cillisen (sp?) Medicaid

SCHEDULE CONFLICTS: Pat Carlson, Jill Wertz, Jalyn Todd, Michelle Nelson

1. The group looked at the booklet **“SCREENING AND ASSESSING MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS AMONG YOUTH IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM”** put out by OJJDP and available on their website for free. Scott Carlson took the hard copy with him. (at least I think he did.)
2. Otto announced the **“GET ON BOARD” CONFERENCE IS MAY 9 & 10** and everyone should be getting a card to reserve this date, very soon. Registration info will follow. Cost looks like \$65 per person. Outstanding, nationally recognized presenters will be keynote speakers, with workshops in three tracks. There will be CEU’s for a wide variety of professions.
3. **NEXT MEETING** was set for March 17 at 10am at Independence Center, 1650 Lake St. Since its St. Paddy’s Day, BJ Brittenham promised to tap a keg of green beer for the meeting.
4. Melissa Beecher, reviewed the **JUVENILE JUSTICE STRATEGIC PLAN** with the group to help her determine which strategies are being done, not done and don't need to be done.
5. **MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY:** Problem for treatment is that now only six months of eligibility is allowed which may be too short for many whose benefits get exhausted. Roxie explained that these time limits cannot change administratively because they are in the statutes. She educated the group about some other options such as Kids Connect, if the child is out of the parent's home for 90 days. Also, a new eval may start the clock again. She is also available for phone calls with questions though she is not the eligibility specialist - 471-9224. She will be happy to rejoin us any time we have questions.
6. In our **WISH LIST** we added the possibility of more formally being advocates with the legislature.
 - (a) Treat the whole family together if it were possible.
 - (b) Have case management for high utilizers.
 - (c) Some systematic way for diversion officers to keep contact with families, kids, and tx. 150 or so on caseload.
 - (d) Rural communities have fewer resources and often lack transportation to get to the services.
 - (e) Transportation is a problem in town also. Bus vouchers get abused by clients.
 - (f) Have more “youth oriented” AA. Youth sponsors. Independence Center uses youth sponsors from their aftercare program, however they too move on with their lives so you must constantly renew the sponsor group.
 - (g) Cross training with CJ and SA professionals. Develop a system for cross training.
 - (h) Cut down Probation Officer case loads.
 - (i) Become more formal advocates with the state legislature.